



**Commission on Equitable Housing and Development
Housing Segregation Subcommittee**

Thursday, January 26, 2023, 1:00 pm – 2:30 pm

Zoom Meeting

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HoqNHi63xNw>

Meeting Minutes

1. Call to Order, Statement, and Roll Call

Meeting was called to order at 1:07 pm by co-chair, Jay Young. Roll call was taken and a quorum was established. No action taken.

<u>Member</u>	<u>Representing</u>	<u>Absent/Present</u>
Jay Young	Mayor & Council	Present
Laurie Mazerbo	HCD	Present
Mike Edmonds	Mayor & Council	Present
Vicki Cuscino	Direct Advocacy and Resource Center	Present

Others Present

- Alison Miller, City of Tucson Housing and Community Development
- Joe Audino, Barrio Neighborhood Coalition
- Ernesto Portillo, City of Tucson Housing and Community Development
- Cecilia Horvick, City of Tucson

2. Review and Adoption of Meeting Minutes from August, September, and December 2022

Item tabled until next meeting.

No action taken.

3. Chair's Report

- a) ASU Equity Study Update:** Discussion held about takeaways from the Equity Study. Topics included: Tucson rents compared to other cities studied and the

accuracy and recency of the data used. Co-chair Jay Young noted that based on the report, Austin and Seattle appear to be looking at equity at a more comprehensive manner than Tucson and that it can be difficult to find what it is Tucson is doing. The Subcommittee agreed to preview the study at the next full Commission meeting and discuss it in more depth at the next Subcommittee meeting.

b) Mapping Racist Covenants Project: Mr. Young shared about the MRC project led by Jason Jurjevich at the University of Arizona. Discussion held. The website is: mappingracistcovenants.org. Commissioner Vicki Cuscino shared that the book, "Saving the Neighborhood" is available on the website.

No action taken.

4. Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing – New Proposed Rule

Mr. Young introduced the AFFH new proposed rule by giving the context of the Fair Housing Act which not only banned housing discrimination, but obligated governments to undue segregated housing patterns. That second part has not been adequately enforced over time. A 2015 Obama Administration rule that gave new guidelines was suspended under the Trump Administration. The new proposed rule from the Biden Administration is very similar to the 2015 rule. Cities will be required to complete an Equity Study and track progress. Guest Joe Audino recommended a book called "Public Housing Myths" that features a chapter about the fair housing enforcement fight between George Romney and Richard Nixon. The item will also be on the full Commission agenda.

No action taken.

5. Discussion of Issues Related to Gentrification and Displacement

a) Ideas for Action: As a follow-up to the previous meeting, Mr. Young opened up the topic for discussion. Discussion held. Topics included: Norte-Sur, the need for better transit and transit-oriented development in Tucson, land banking for affordable housing in advance of high-capacity transit project(s), how federal funding shapes local decision-making, the need for policies and strategies that mitigate displacement risks from these investments. Mr. Audino discussed tenant protections and community-controlled housing measures as ideas for action. The Subcommittee decided to not move specific items forward but to keep the item on the agenda.

No action taken.

5. HAST Implementation Updates and Discussion

HCD staff gave an update on the current status of the Source of Income Protection ordinance. In December, the previous Attorney General determined that the City's SOI ordinance violated state law and therefore the City had 30 days to resolve the violation. At the first Mayor and Council meeting of the year, M&C decided to ask the new Attorney General Chris Mayes to reconsider the determination and in the meantime, stop all enforcement activities related to Source of Income protection. AG Mayes agreed and is currently rereviewing the determination. While the ordinance was being enforced, the City received 4 complaints and staff have reported that many new landlords signed up to participate in the Housing Choice Voucher program. Mr. Young shared that from his perspective, the pause will give the City more time to work on the enforcement component, which is needed. The City is now also in the process of applying to HUD to the Fair Housing Assistance Program (FHAP) to be able to conduct its own fair housing investigations.

Regarding public housing repositioning, staff reported that it has recently hired a consultant to create the repositioning plan. The goal will be to go to the PHA Board in June, and to the CEHD before then.

7. Call to the Audience

Mr. Audino spoke and noted that the full Commission and other subcommittees had not met recently. He recommended a webinar titled "A Right to Housing" which can be found at:

<https://challengeinequality.luskin.ucla.edu/righttohousing/>.

He mentioned the National Low Income Housing Coalition's response to the new AFFH rule and a trip some New York lawmakers took to Vienna, Austria to learn more about their social housing.

8. Next Steps

a. Next meeting: February 23, 2023, 1:00 pm

Co-chair Young asked if there was anything that should be done differently in terms of running the Subcommittee meetings. Commissioner Cuscino suggested the subcommittee change its name to indicate it is against segregation.

b. Items for future meetings

The agenda will remain roughly the same for the future meeting.

Commissioner Cuscino made a motion which was duly seconded that the subcommittee change its name to the Housing Desegregation Subcommittee. Motion passed by a voice vote of 4-0.

9. Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 2:23 pm.